DOCKET NO.: SNL-0004 (SD-8433)

Application No.: 10/701,097

Office Action Dated: January 25, 2006

Please amend the specification as follows:

Please replace paragraph [0060] with the following paragraph:

[0001] Typically the functional group of the functionalized porous polymer monolith is capable of binding a nucleic acid. A particularly preferred nucleic acid that is capable of binding expressed genes in a biological sample is oligo-T (i.e., for hybridization of poly-A segments of mRNA). Accordingly, amine-containing oligo-T can by bound to porous polymer monoliths through a monomer that is capable of copolymerizing with the porous polymer monolith and which also includes a functional group capable of forming a covalent bond with oligo-T. Examples of suitable functional groups capable of binding oligo-T include glycidyl, or aldehyde chemistries. Accordingly, suitable monomers include, ethylene glycol dimethacrylate, 2-hydroxyl ethyl methacrylate, tetrahydroxyl furan methacrylate, lauryl acrylate, morpholine acrylate, 2-hydroxy ethyl acrylate, and preferably glycidyl methacrylate ("GMA"). Typically, the functionalized porous polymer monolith includes pores having a surface, the pores permitting fluid communication through the functionalized porous polymer monolith. The functionalized porous polymer monolith also typically includes a highly crosslinked polymer. A variety of crosslinked polymers can be prepared by the methods disclosed in the Shepodd patent, but typically the highly crosslinked polymer includes units derived from at least one mono-ethylenically unsaturated monomer, at least one multi-ethylenically unsaturated monomer, or a combination thereof. Examples of suitable mono-ethylenically unsaturated monomer include any of the mono-ethylenically unsaturated, functionalized or unfunctionalized, acrylic or methacrylic monomers known in the polymer art, such as 2-hydroxyethyl acrylate, 2-hydroxyethyl methacrylate, glycidyl methacrylate and 9-anthracenylmethyl methacrylate. Other suitable mono-ethylenically unsaturated monomers include allylglycidyl ether, 2-vinyl oxirane, and polybutadiene-maleic anhydride. Examples of functional groups include inter alia alcohol (e.g., hydroxyethylmethacrylate) and glycidyl (e.g., glycidyl methacrylate). Examples of multiethylenically unsaturated monomer include ethylene glycol dimethacrylate ("EGDMA"), polyethyleneglycol dimethacrylate, tetraethyleneglycol dimethacrylate, triethyleneglycol dimethacrylate, ethylene dimethacrylate, 1,3-butanediol dimethacrylate, 1,4-butanediol dimethacrylate, 1,6-hexanediol diacrylate, tripropyleneglycol diacrylate, trimethylolpropane

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triacrylate ("TMPTA"), trimethylolpropane trimethylacrylate ("TMPTMA"). Typically, the functionalized porous polymer monoliths are prepared by using a suitable UV photo initiator, such as IrgacureTM 1800. A suitable highly crosslinked polymer comprises units derived from a radical reaction catalyzed by UV activation of bis(2,6-D, methoxybenzoyl)-2,4,4-trimethylphenyl phosphine oxide.

PATENT